

The Islamic Society of Greater Lansing

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Dear Committee Members,

I am writing in regards to House Concurrent Resolution 0028 (2016) sponsored by Mr. Michael McCready that is up for hearing by the committee at 10:30 am, Thursday, December 1, 2016.

I believe the fears expressed by some individuals in regards to the refugee resettlement program are unfounded. The President and Congress of the United States are already in compliance with the Refugee Resettlement Act of 1980 and have a thorough screening and vetting process which takes several months. Halting or placing additional bureaucratic steps in the refugee resettlement process will only slow down their passage to safety and place countless families, children in particular, in danger.

Michigan has been a welcoming state to refugees. Several local city governments in Michigan have declared themselves as welcoming cities because aside from the humanitarian purpose that we server, we as a state stand to benefit from their economic contributions. Their social and cultural contributions further the diversity in our community as well.

I am speaking on this as a concerned citizen of Michigan and this is also the sentiment of the members of the Islamic Society of Greater Lansing as we, as a community organization, have several volunteer programs to assist the refugees.

I hereby request the committee clerk to please place on record my letter opposing the resolution and any bill halting of the refugee resettlement program. You may feel free to contact me at the and I will be happy to answer any further questions that you may have. Thank you.

Sincerely, Thasin Sardar Outreach Coordinator, Islamic Center of East Lansing 920 S. Harrison E Lansing, MI 48823 517.944.5056